

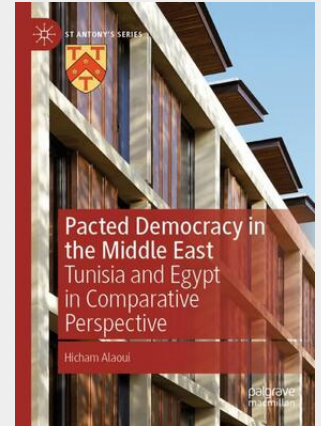
Alaoui

## Pacted Democracy in the Middle East

Tunisia and Egypt in Comparative Perspective

This book provides a new theory for how democracy can materialize in the Middle East, and the broader Muslim world. It shows that one pathway to democratization lays not in resolving important, but often irreconcilable, debates about the role of religion in politics. Rather, it requires that Islamists and their secular opponents focus on the concerns of pragmatic survival—that is, compromise through pacting, rather than battling through difficult philosophical issues about faith. This is the only book-length treatment of this topic, and one that aims to redefine the boundaries of an urgent problem that continues to haunt struggles for democracy in the aftermath of the Arab Spring.

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**139,09 €**

129,99 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

**Artikelnummer:** 9783030992422

**Medium:** Buch

**ISBN:** 978-3-030-99242-2

**Verlag:** Springer International Publishing

**Erscheinungstermin:** 19.05.2023

**Sprache(n):** Englisch

**Auflage:** 1. Auflage 2022

**Serie:** St Antony's Series

**Produktform:** Kartoniert

**Gewicht:** 411 g

**Seiten:** 292

**Format (B x H):** 148 x 210 mm

